

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Applicant(s) submit(s) herewith one sheet of replacement drawings. The amendments to the drawings are as follows:

Reference numeral 36 refers to the bulb and reference numeral 40 refers to the leads.

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed July 27, 2005 has been carefully considered along with the references cited therein. In the subject Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings because the failed to include reference numeral 40 that was mentioned in the description. The Examiner also objected to the title as not being descriptive. As for the claims, the Examiner rejected claims 7, 10-13 and 15-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,060,820 to Noll et al. ("Noll '820"). Claims 8 and 9 were rejected under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noll '820 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,078,128 to Gagnon et al. ("Gagnon"). The Examiner also rejected claim 14 under § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Noll '820 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,210,029 to Noll et al. ("Noll '029").

Drawings

The drawings have been amended as described on page 6 of this Amendment. Replacement sheets accompany this amendment.

Specification

Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's objection to the title. Applicant believes that the title is descriptive. Also, Applicant has amended line 4 of paragraph [0019] of the specification to correct a typographical error.

Claim Rejections

Claim 7 has been amended to include the language recited in original claim 8. Claim 8 was rejected as being unpatentable over Noll '820 in view Gagnon. The Examiner indicated the Gagnon teaches an eyelet (26) that has substantially homogeneous strength characteristics through the length of the tubular portion at column 2, line 43 through column 3, line 32. This is incorrect.

As best seen in FIGURE 3 of Gagnon, the tubular portion 28 includes thin wall sections or grooves 42. As explained at column 3, lines 28-32 "the grooves [42] allow the tube 28 to radially break or bow outwards on sufficient pressure from the tube ends 36, 38,

and still hold the flange 46 to the lamp housing 12, while providing a through passage for the electric lead 22.” Accordingly, Gagnon does not teach substantially homogeneous strength characteristics through the length of the tubular portion as the Examiner suggests. In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 7 as amended patentably defines over the cited reference.

Claim 16 has been amended to include language similar to the language that was recited in original claim 17. Claim 17 was rejected as anticipated by Noll ‘820. At column 5, line 41, Noll ‘820 discloses a springy, light weight arched, perforated disk 44 that receives the pinch attachment 45 of the bulb. At column 5, lines 50 – 52, Noll states that the bulb is placed into the neck under pressure and then the external lead wires are crimped to the eyelets. Accordingly, in addition to the weight of the disk (positioning member) and the bulb (light source), the resilient force of the disk, by way of the pressure on the bulb deforming and flattening the springy, light weight arched disk, is also exerted on the bulges 67 (shoulders). Therefore, Noll ‘820 fails to disclose each limitation recited in amended claim 16.

Claim 20 recites, among other things, that the eyelet is mechanically fastened to at least one lead without the at least one lead being in tension. In Noll ‘820, the lead is placed in tension because the springy, light weight arched disk 44 springs back after the lead wires are crimped to the eyelets. This type of construction was described in Applicant’s specification in the BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION sections. Accordingly, Noll ‘820 fails to disclose each limitation recited in claim 20.

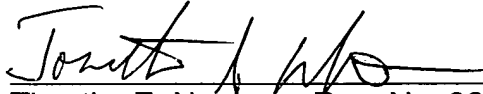
CONCLUSION

All formal and informal matters having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Alternatively, if the Examiner is of the view that the application is not in clear condition for allowance, it is requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned for purposes of conducting a telephone interview to

resolve any outstanding differences. Accordingly, an early notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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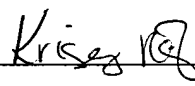
October 27, 2005

Date

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8, I certify that this Amendment is being

- ☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail, addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.
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Date October 27, 2005	Printed Name Krisey E. Riley

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APPENDIX

Replacement Sheets 1 is attached.

